

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06
TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01
NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07 CEA-01 INT-05 GSA-02 DOE-11
SOE-02 NRC-05 /128 W
-----006083 030607Z /65

R 021411Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6289
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 1390

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EINV, EMIN, GV, YO, AG, NI, US
SUBJECT: DABOLA BAUXITE/ALUMINA PROJECT

REF: (A) CONAKRY 0172, (B) CONAKRY 0194 (BOTH NOTAL)

1. MARC GARCIN, REPRESENTATIVE OF LEON TEMPELSMAN AND SONS, INC., 529 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, VISITED LAGOS WEEK OF JANUARY 16 TO DISCUSS VARIOUS OPPORTUNITIES IN NIGERIA AND MENTIONED HE WAS TRAVELLING TO CONAKRY JANURY 20 TO MEET PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE TO DISCUSS OLD BAUXITE PROJECT IN WHICH EAST EUROPEANS HAD BEEN INVOLVED AND FOR WHICH GOG WAS NOW INTERESTED IN FINDING WESTERN PARTNERS. PROJECT TO WHICH GARCIN REFERRED WAS ALMOST CERTAINLY DABOLA PLANT REFERRED TO IN REFTELS.

2. TEMPELSMAN IS COMPANY THAT PUT TOGETHER TENGE-FUNGURUME
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COPPER CONSORTIUM IN ZAIRE IN 1970. BESIDES TEMPELSMAN AND GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE, THIS INCLUDED CHARTER CONSOLIDATED (UK9, AMOCO MINERALS (US), MITSUI (JAPAN) AND BUREAU DE RECHERCHES GEOLOGIQUES ET MINIERES (FRANCE). PROJECT WAS VALUED AT DOLLARS ONE BILLION. TEMPELSMAN ALSO PULLED TOGETHER URANIUM EXPLORATION CONSORTIUM IN GABON WHICH INCLUDED UNION CARBIDE (US), COMPAGNIE GENERAL DES MATIERES NUCLEAIRES

(FRANCE), AND EXPRESA NACIONAL DEL URANIO (SPAIN). IN GABON, TEMPELSMAN ALSO WORKING WITH KALICAK CONSTRUCTION COMPANY OF ST. LOUIS ON GOVERNMENT HOUSING PROJECTS, AND IS BIDDING ON TRANS-GABON RAILROAD AND NEW MINERALS PORT AT SANTA CLARA. TEMPELSMAN HAS EXPERIENCE IN OTHER COUNTRIES SUCH AS THE USSR, POLAND, ROMANIA, BRAZIL, CHILE, PERU, PHILIPPINES, SIERRA LEONE, NIGER, GHANA AND BURUNDI.

3. TEMPELSMAN'S SPECIAL TALENT LIES IN FINDING NOT ONLY TECHNICAL PARTNERS, BUT ALSO FINANCE FOR LARGE PROJECTS IN COUNTRIES WHOSE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION AT THE TIME MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO ATTRACT PRIVATE CAPITAL INVESTMENT FROM ORDINARY SOURCES. TOURE NO DOUBT HOPES THAT TEMPELSMAN CAN DO FOR HIM WHAT HE DID FOR BROTHER MOBUTU. GARCIA EXPRESSED OPINION CONSISTENT WITH EMBASSY CONAKRY'S ANALYSIS THAT TOURD INTERESTED IN SWINGING GOG POLICIES IN MORE PRAGMATIC, WESTERN DIRECTION AND MAY REGARD DABOLA AS LITMUS TEST OF WESTERN INTENTIONS. GARCIA MET WITH TEMPELSMAN IN PARIS WEEKEND JANJARY 28-29 BUT NO FURTHER WORD AVAILABLE REGARDING DABOLA WYMAN

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Message Attributes

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